

Impacts of Container Deposit Laws: Proven Effectiveness of Deposits to Reduce Beverage Container Litter

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TOP 10 ITEMS FOUND



1 2,117,931
cigarettes / cigarette filters



6 692,767
cups, plates, forks,
knives, spoons



2 1,140,222
food wrappers / containers



7 611,048
straws, stirrers



3 1,065,171
beverage bottles (plastic)



8 521,730
beverage bottles (glass)



4 1,019,902
bags (plastic)



9 339,875
beverage cans



5 958,893
caps, lids



10 298,332
bags (paper)

How Stuff Becomes Litter

- Wind
- Full receptacles
- Careless or deliberate



Don't confuse recycling programs with litter reduction programs

Who Litters?

- Mostly male
- Urban
- Younger (18-34)
- Employed outside the home
- Predominantly single
- (This study only included adults.)

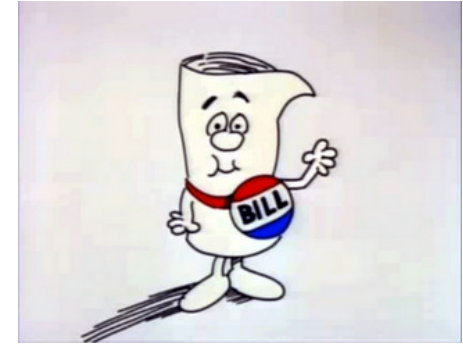


Beverage Container Litter is Preventable!





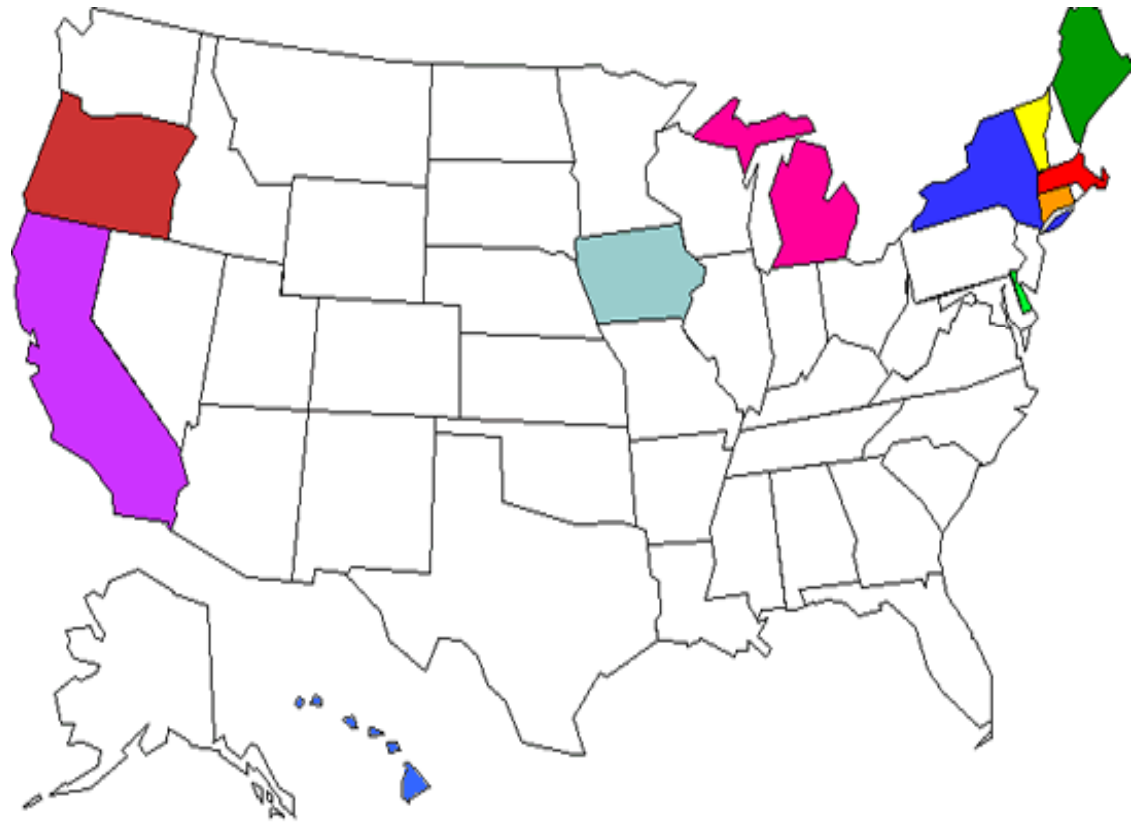
What is a “Bottle Bill”?



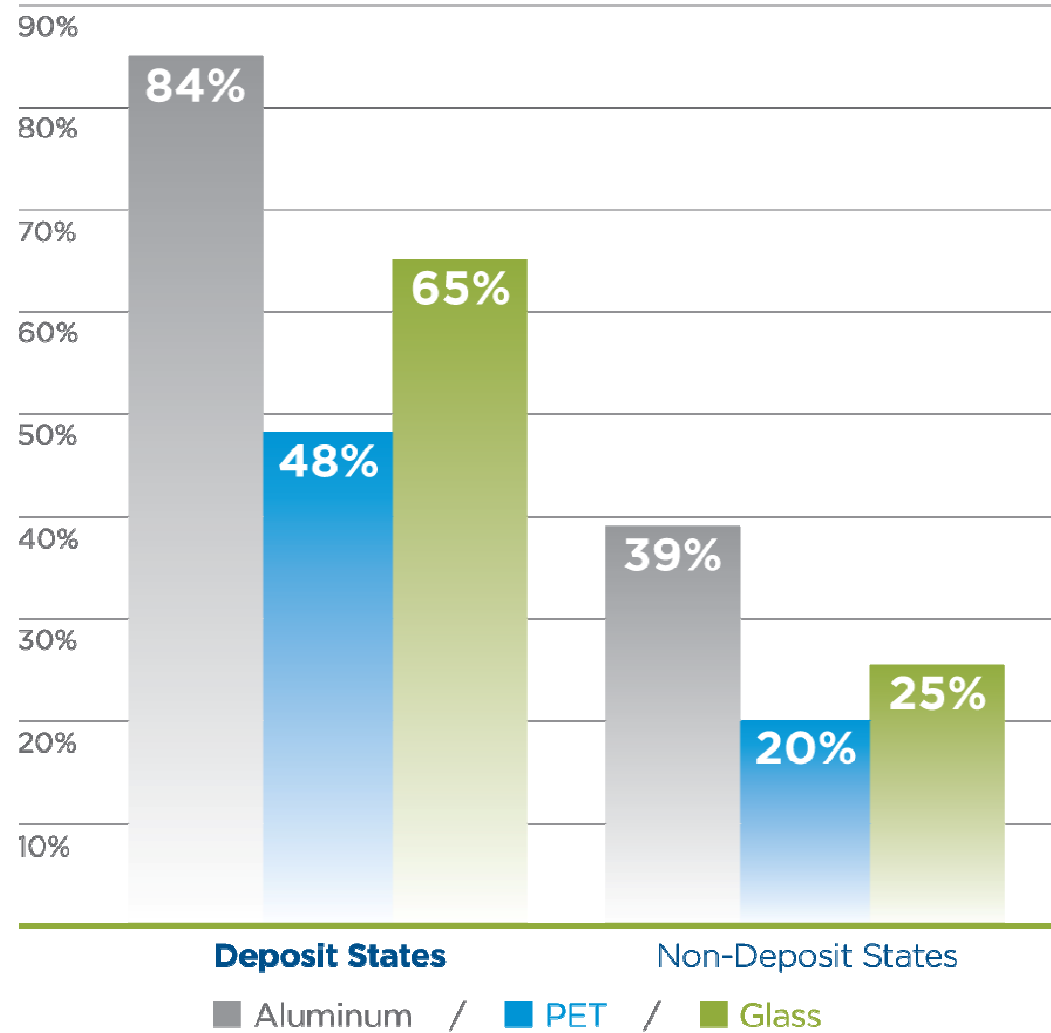
- Requires distributors and retailers to collect a minimum refundable deposit, usually 5-10 cents on certain beverage containers
- Creates a privately-funded collection infrastructure for beverage containers
- Makes producers and consumers responsible for their packaging waste

U.S. States with Container Deposit Laws

48% of all beverage containers recycled in the U.S. come from these 10 states (w/ 28% of US pop.)

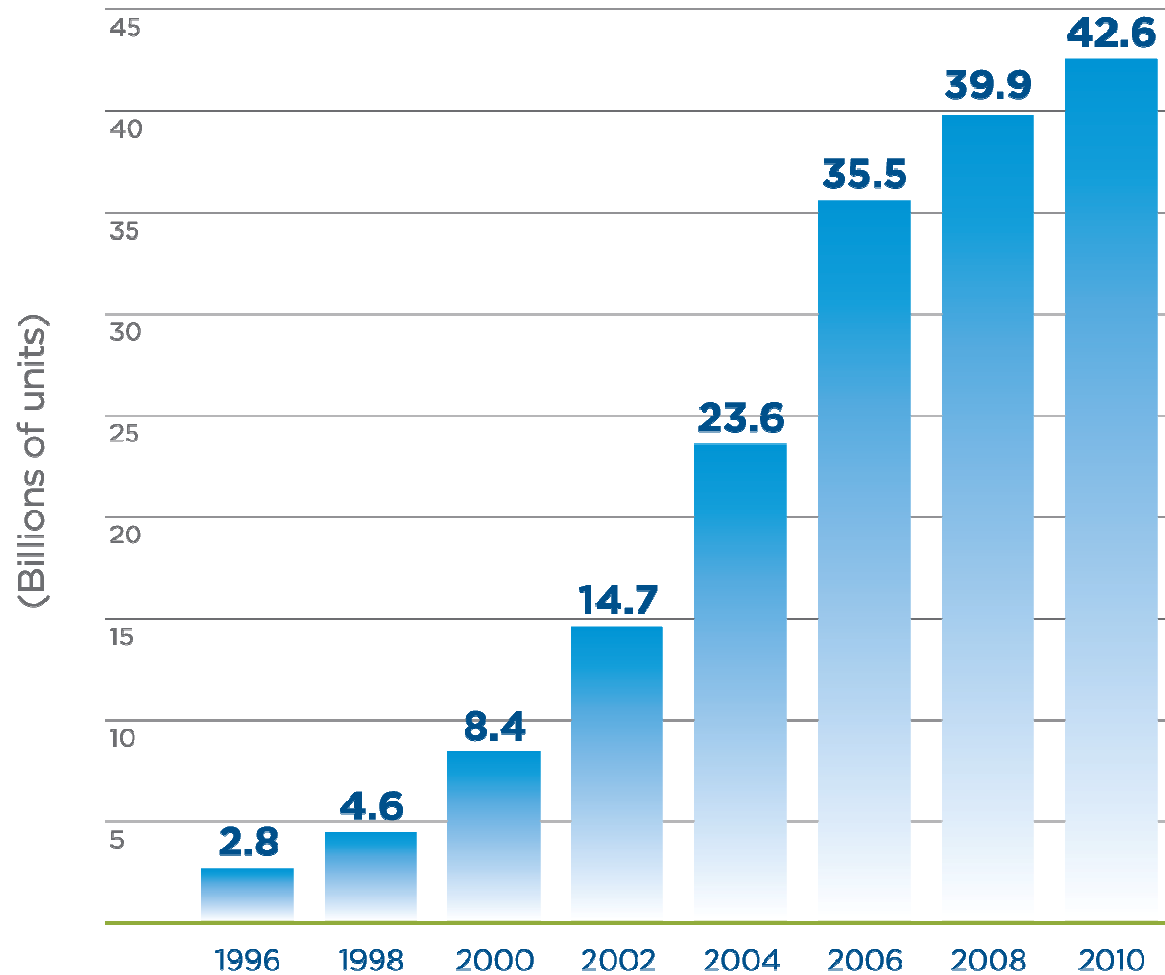


Deposit States Have Higher Beverage Container Recycling Rates



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U.S. Plastic Bottled Water Sales, 1996-2010



Defined as domestic, bottled water packaged in plastic, ≤ 1 gallon.
Derived from Beverage Marketing Corporation data, 1996-2010.

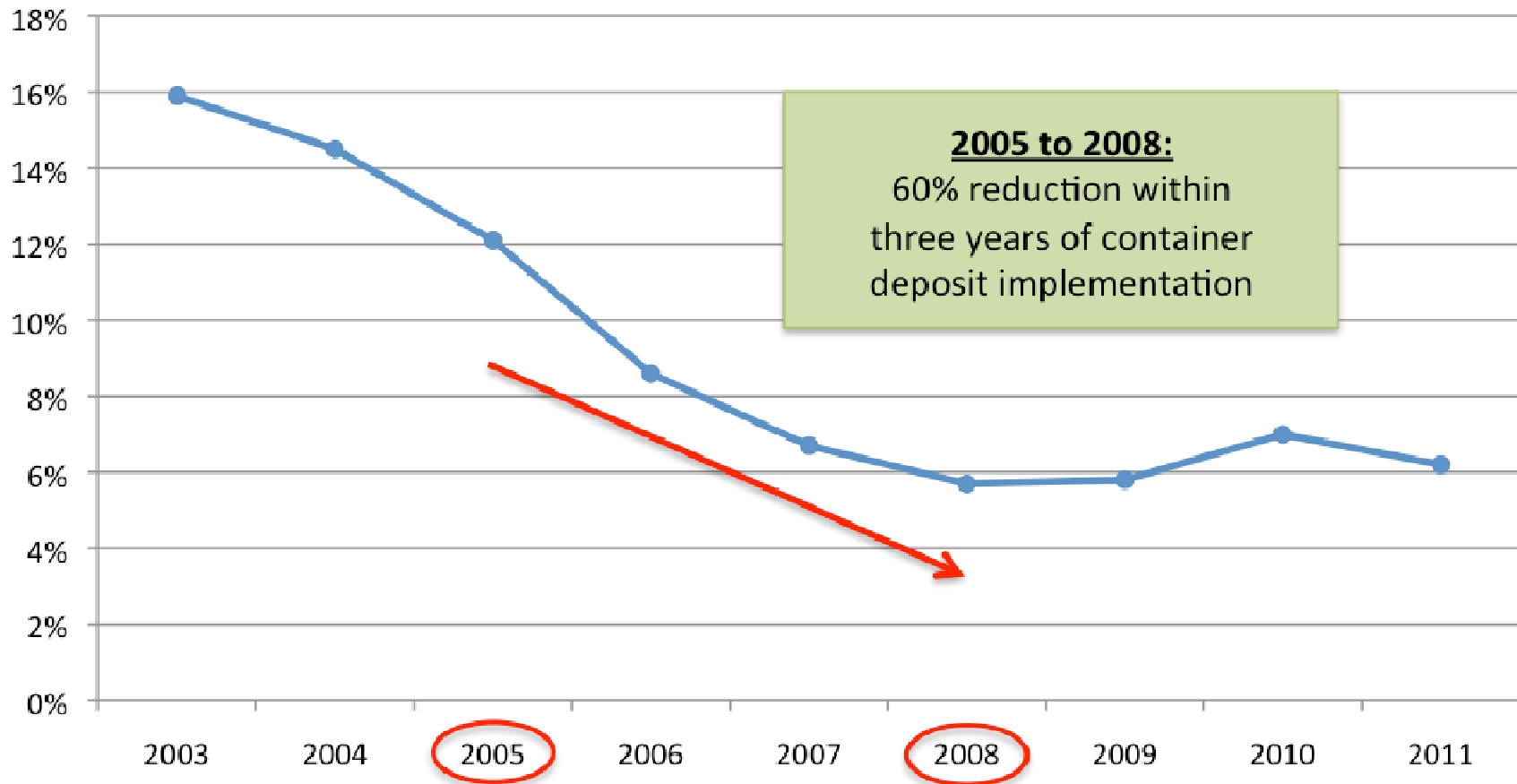
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Bottle Bills Reduce Litter

State	Beverage Container Litter Reduced	Total Litter Reduced
NY	70 - 80%	30%
OR	83%	47%
VT	76%	35%
ME	69 - 77%	35 - 56%
MI	80%	38%
IA	77%	38%

Source: "Trade-offs Involved in Beverage Container Deposit Legislation", US GAO, 1990.

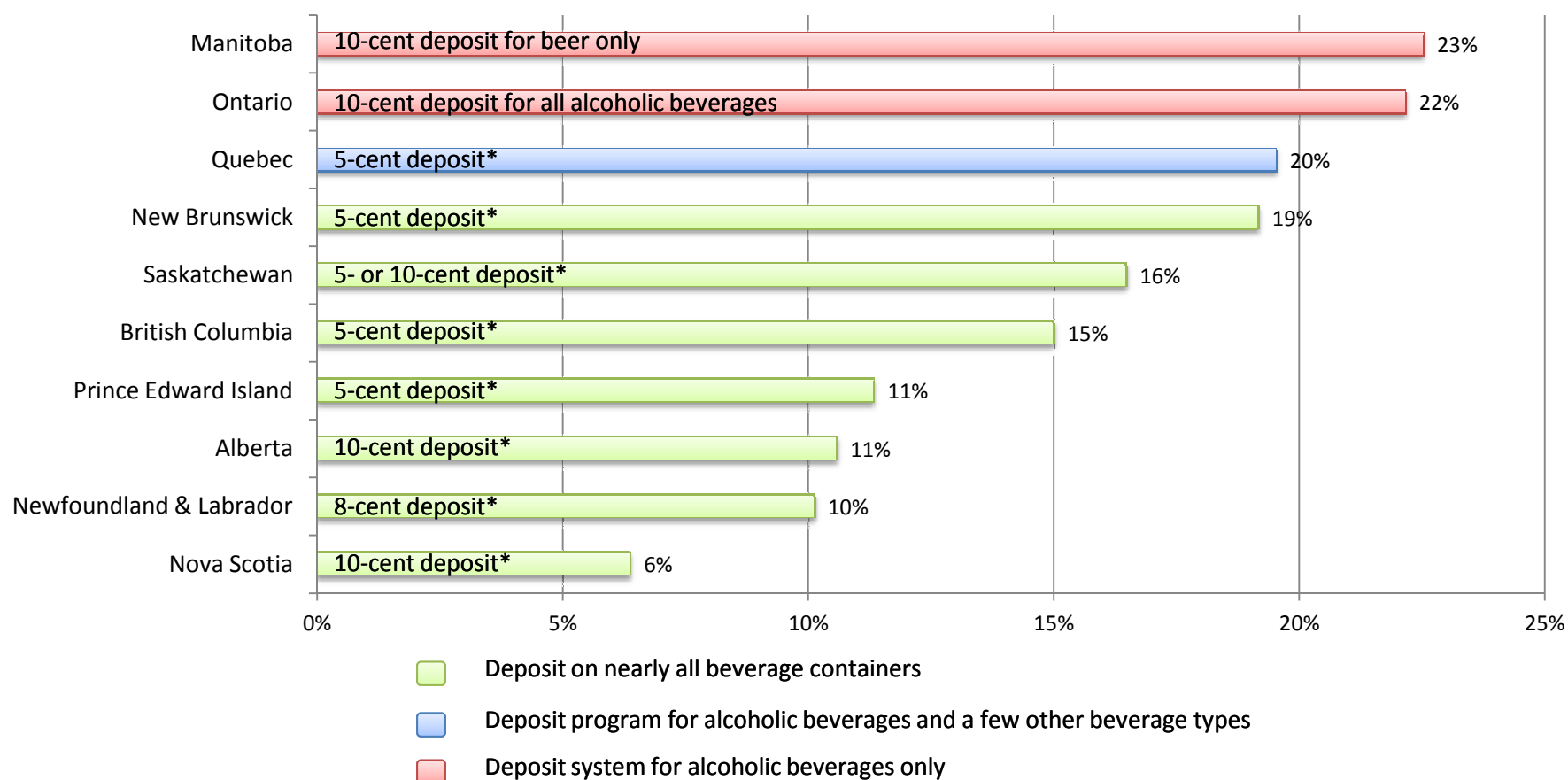
Beverage Containers As Percentage of Total Litter Collected in Hawaii



Source: Ocean Conservancy International Coastal Cleanup, 2003-2011

Container Litter is Influenced by Deposit Status

Beverage Containers As Percentage of Total Litter (Excluding Cigarettes) Collected in Great Canadian Shoreline Cleanup, 2012

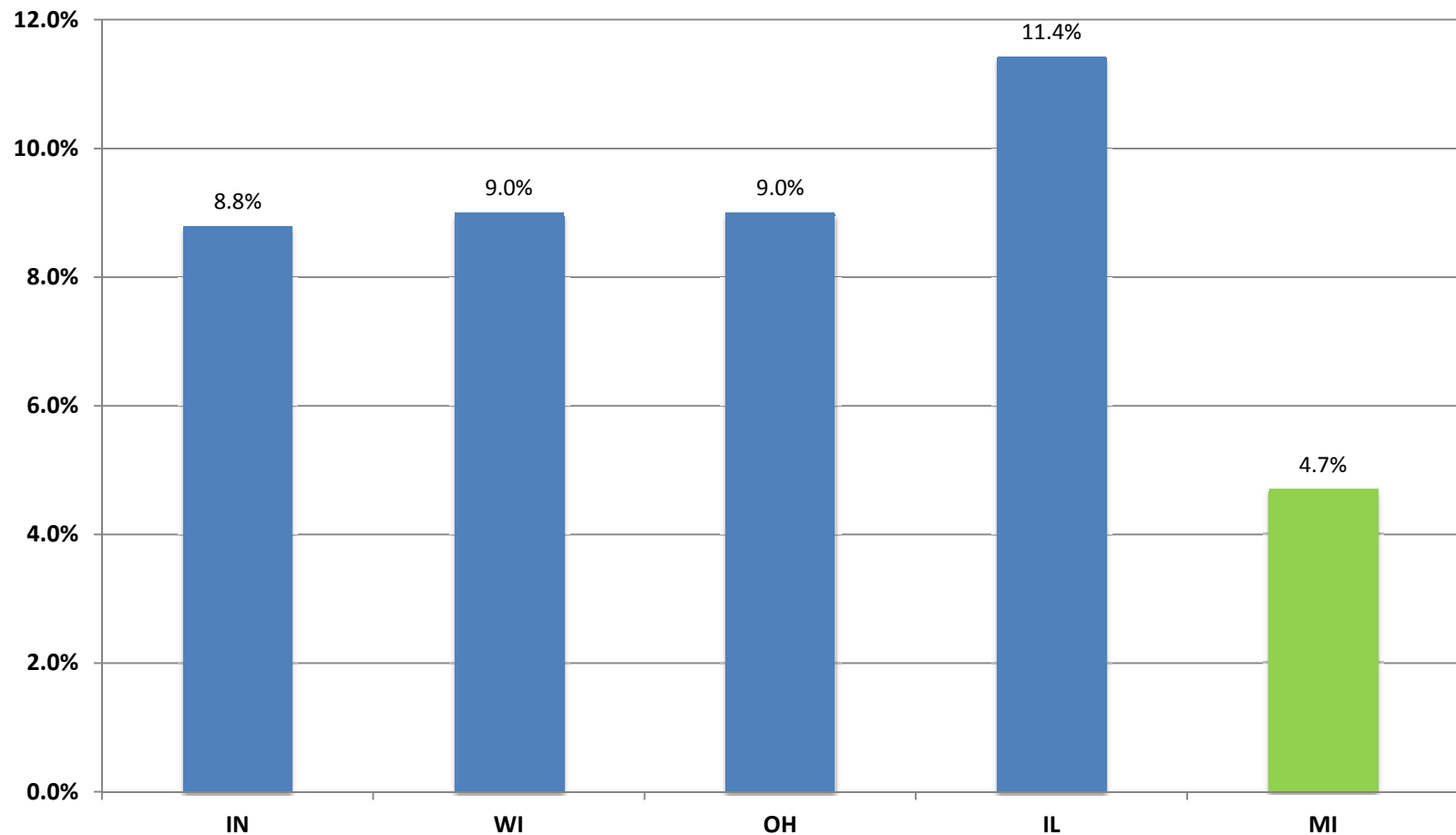


*Deposit fee pertaining to non-alcoholic, non-refillable containers of <1 liter
Sources: Great Canadian Shoreline Cleanup, BottleBill.org



Deposits Reduce Beverage Container Litter – Great Lakes

Beverage containers as a percentage of all beach litter in five States



Economic Impacts of Marine Debris Cleanup & Prevention

\$520,000,000 each year= the cost to West Coast communities – *tax payers and local governments* – to combat litter and curtail marine debris.

~ U.S. EPA Region 9 Report, 2012





Estimated Costs to Communities

- On average, **\$13 per person** to control litter
- West Coast communities are spending more than **\$520,000,000** each year to combat litter and curtail marine debris

City Size	Population Range	Range of Annual Costs Reported	Average Annual Cost	Average Per Capita Cost
Largest (ie. Los Angeles)	Over 250,000	\$2,877,400 - \$20,672,266	\$10,054,805	\$12.54
Larger (ie. Glendale)	75,000 – 249,999	\$342,000 - \$2,057,500	\$1,211,522	\$10.15
Mid-Sized (ie. Redondo Beach)	15,000 – 74,999	\$37,500 - \$2,330,000	\$557,596	\$13.97
Smaller (ie. Commerce)	Under 15,000	\$0 - \$890,000	\$95,345	\$13.85

Source: The Cost to West Coast Communities of Dealing With Trash, Reducing Marine Debris, USEPA 2012
www.container-recycling.org